

Message Text

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14

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 DHA-02 /058 W

----- 063784

R 082215Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0531

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

JCS WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

USCINCSO

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 3225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, NU

SUBJECT: NATIONAL GUARD REASSIGNMENTS: ALLEGED TORTURER RETIRED

REF: (A) MANAGUA 2843, (B) MANAGUA 0577

1. EMB ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED IN REFTEL (A) THAT COL. CARLOS GUTIERREZ HAD REPLACED COL. JULIO FONSIKA AS THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMANDER IN NUEVA SEGOVIA AND THAT FONSECA HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED TO BOACO AS DEPARTMENTAL COMMANDER. IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE AT OCOTAL, NUEVA SEGOVIA DURING THE TENURE OF THE PREVIOUS COMMANDER (REF B) EMB IS PLEASED TO CLARIFY THAT COL. SEBASTIAN LOPEZ, NOT FONSECA, WAS THE PREVIOUS COMMANDER AND THAT LOPEZ WAS RETIRED FROM ACTIVE SERVICE ON JUNE 14, WHEN THE GON DECLINED TO EXERCISE THE OPTION OF EXTENDING HIS SERVICE.

2. COMMENT: WHETHER OR NOT LOPEZ WAS RETIRED BECAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IS NOT KNOWN ALTHOUGH EMB (DEFATT) HAD DRAWN PRESIDENT SOMOZA'S ATTENTION TO SITUATION SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE AND WE HAD
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HEARD OF NO FURTHER TORTURE COMPLAINTS FOLLOWING THEIR CONVERSATION.

IT IS LIKELY THAT SOMOZA TOOK SOME REMEDIAL MEASURES UPON BEING
APPRISED OF THE SITUATION, BUT THAT THESE WERE NOT SUFFICIENT TO
SAVE LOPEZ' CAREER WHEN THE APPROPRIATE MOMENT CAME.
THEBERGE

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: ARMED FORCES, HUMAN RIGHTS, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS
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Draft Date: 08 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PGOV, MPOL, SHUM, NU, (LOPEZ, SEBASTIAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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